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THE DIXIE RANGER

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CHIEF FORESTER FINDS SOUTHERN PROBLEMS OF OUTSTANDING INTEREST

The possibilities of timber as a substitute cash crop for cotton in the South was the outstanding impression of his first official visit to Region 8, Forester Silcox told the employees of the Regional Office when they gathered in the large drafting room of the Branch of Engineering to welcome him to Atlanta on March 20.

Mr. Silcox said that no other section of the country presented more interesting problems in reforestation and forest management. Nowhere else could one find, he said, trees susceptible of such extensive use as the Southern pines which furnish turpentine while attaining maturity and may be utilized from stumps to leaves when finally cut.

The most interesting phase of forestry to him, Mr. Silcox said, was its effect on human beings. There is no sadder sight, he declared, than the spectacle of ghost towns in denuded lumber country where a cut-out-and-get-out policy has been followed. It is the ideal of the Forest Service to prevent

such wasteful forest practices and to develop in the United States a system of forest management under which forest land could be depended on to furnish human beings residing in its vicinity with a permanent way to earn a living, not for just one wasteful generation but for many thrifty generations to follow.

Mr. Silcox said it was his hope that the Forest Service could do much to improve social conditions for the people of the South living in forest areas. "Anyone who travels through the Dixie timberland," he said, "can not fail to be impressed with the paradox of unpainted shacks in vicinities where trees grow abundantly, supplying not only lumber but turpentine, the basis of all paint mixtures."

The Forester commented on the rapid expansion of the Service in the past two years, stating that the aggregate territory now under the jurisdiction of the bureau was larger than the State of Texas. He said there were more employees on the average forest at present than in an entire

region when he was Regional Forester twenty years ago.

In introducing the Forester, Mr. Kircher also mentioned this fact. Every time he visited the field, he said, he was astounded at the increase in personnel. In old Region 7, including most of the territory east of the Mississippi, there were only 30 employees in the Regional Office when Mr. Kircher took charge. There are approximately 115 employees in the Atlanta Regional Office today. Tomorrow there will probably be more.

What impressed this reporter most about the Chief Forester was his memory for figures. His handling of statistics from memory reminded one of the late General Lord, the statistical wizard who once ruled over the Bureau of the Budget. Not only did Mr. Silcox have all the forestry statistics for the entire country at his tongue's tip but he even remembered the length of a hall he saw in a beautiful Colonial structure in Natchez.

AN APPRECIATION

April 5 marks the second anniversary of the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

It originated from the need of finding paying jobs for large numbers of the country's young men who were caught in an economic jam they had no part in creating but which prevented them from earning a living through useful work.

For generations far-sighted citizens have called attention to our Nation's profligate use of its natural resources, and no indictment has been more severe than our waste of our forest heritage.

More than two years ago when President Roosevelt proposed using a conservation problem to solve a social problem by putting the unemployed youth of the land to work in the woods, the best that could be said for the public attitude toward the idea was that it was one of watchful waiting. Many critics loudly and insistently denounced the plan as impractical.

To the majority of us who have dedicated our lives to tree conservation, it seemed like a forestry millenium. We were not sure how much work would be forthcoming from untrained men, but we knew some good was inevitable and we set to work with high hearts. The CCC has not let us down. Its two-year record speaks for itself.

When the CCC program began in the spring of 1933 there was so little publicly owned forest land in the South that most of the early Southern camps were located on private lands. In the meantime funds were allocated for buying national-forest land in Region 8, and at this writing 3,136,559 acres have been approved for purchase.

There is no need for me to enumerate what the boys have done for Region 8. You planned the projects, and you know that an end will never come to the good that has been accomplished. We were working not for this generation alone but for future ones. From Director Fechner to the youngest enrollee, the CCC has gone quietly about its job and has done it well. The Forest Service holds it in close kinship, and on its second anniversary Region 8 wishes it Happy Days!

--H. O. Stabler,
Acting Regional Forester.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ESTABLISHES REGIONAL OFFICE IN ATLANTA

The National Park Service has established regional headquarters in Atlanta, opening offices in the Glenn Building the first of March. The original five State Park ECW districts of the National Park Service have been superseded by eight regions. The new Southern one is officially designated as Region 4, and embraces Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. J. H. Gadsby, former Fifth District Inspector is in charge. Many of the inspectors for the new Park Service Region are neighbors of Forest Service officials headquartered in the same city.

Inspector Myers is located at Jackson, Mississippi, Inspector Bishop at Macon, Georgia, and Inspector Vinten at Sebring, Florida. In Tennessee Inspector Wirsching is headquartered at Nashville and Inspector Blaney at Knoxville. In Alabama Inspectors Ferguson and Mulford maintain offices in Montgomery.

FORSLING TO DIRECT APPALACHIAN STATION

C. L. Forsling has succeeded E. H. Frothingham as director of the Appalachian

Forest Experiment Station at Asheville, N.C. Mr. Forsling was formerly director of the Inter-mountain

Forest and Range Experiment Station at Ogden, Utah, A graduate of the University of Nebraska, he brings to the research problems of the Appalachian Region a background of

Chief Forester Silcox tricked out in a Robin Hood costume, rode on the F. S. float in the Mardi Gras procession, and was still chuckling to himself when he arrived in Atlanta about what a good time he had.

20 years of administrative and research experience in the Forest Service. He is an authority on forest watershed protection, one of the important Appalachian problems.

SCIENTIFIC JOBS

The Civil Service Commission has announced the following competitive examinations, entrance salary \$2,000 and applications to be on file in Washington not later than April 15, 1935: Junior biologist (wildlife research), j. plant quarantine inspector, j. entomologist (man and animals), j. pomologist, j. forest ecologist, j. pomologist (plant propagation), j. forest pathologist, j. meteorologist, j. seed botanist, j. nematologist, j. soil scientist (erosion), j. plant physiologist, j. soil surveyor. Further information at postoffice or customhouse in any city with postoffice of first or second class.

WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE FORESTS

For the time being, the DIXIE RANGER will be issued twice a month. In this issue items from the first March reports reaching the Regional

Office will be used; the others will appear in the next issue.

PISGAH

The fire season is here with a vengeance and the camps are well prepared to meet the emergency. Training classes are held in most of the camps each week to instruct the enrollees in

the proper construction of fire lines. Forestry personnel are not granted leave to visit their homes over the week-end during fire season unless there is illness in the family. All fire tools have been checked and are kept in readiness for instant use. There were six fires in the Pisgah during February, one Class A, two Class B, and three Class C. However, only three acres of Government land were burned and forty-eight acres of private land. Eleven fires, six Class B and five Class C, burned three acres of Government land in the Unaka and 113 acres of private land.

A course in first-aid is being taken by all members of the supervisory and facilitating personnel at Camp F-11 Tenn. The course is given by the camp doctor. At Camp F-7 Va., Mr. Alexander, the educational adviser, is giving a course in first-aid for the Forest Service personnel and leaders twice each week. Upon completion of this course, they receive Red Cross certificates of first aid.

He had already settled with her

The following story comes from one of the acquisition crews working on the Unaka Purchase Unit:

A Montgomery County farmer had offered his land for sale and was in the office to sign the option. It was learned that he was married but not living with his wife. He was told that he would have to get her to sign the option before it could be accepted. Says he: "Do you mean ter tell me that she's gonna git part of this yere money? Why, I hev already settled with her. I give her a cook stove that cost me \$28, two cords o'wood, and an axe besides a hundred dollars and she

ain't gonna git nary nuther cent."

The Oxen Won

On the Mount Mitchell District one of our operators is now logging with oxen. He started with horses about two years ago, then decided that mules were better and traded for them. Not long after he said that horned cattle were the only thing to log with in the mountains so he traded his mules for oxen. A year ago he went back to horses; six months ago saw mules again hauling his logs and now he has completed his second cycle and is back to the old horned beasts which probably proves something but the solution escapes us. He said not long ago that he plans to purchase an additional yoke of oxen soon.

Nail stops forest bandits

Petty thievery, such as cutting and hauling out poplar veneer blocks from trees near the roadside at night has become a common practice along the Jonas Ridge-Morganton Road and a tree or two has been taken from Government land. In order to preserve some roadside trees and cope with the situation Ranger Coffey drove large nails in the trees at about stump height. Since then an attempt has been made on one of the trees. The tree was cut down without heading into a nail, but in cutting the first block, the robbers struck one which, apparently so injured their saw that the operation was abandoned.

--Sam R. Broadbent,
Forest Supervisor

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OUACHITA

Timber-sales continue to look up. About 12,000,000 feet of pine now under contract will be cut out in the next three months, and appraisals are under way on 25,000,000 feet in the Oden Working Circle. The demands for small pine and oak sales are brisk.

TSI has now reached some 558,000 total acres treated, with 14 crews still carrying on. During March 80,000 pines will be planted in old fields that have failed to seed naturally.

It was hoped to get through February without a lightning fire but one had to show near the close of the month. Fire weather has averaged reasonable so far, with only a few days of high winds. CCC Hot Shot fire crews have been organized and stationed at strategic points. Their use to make an instant headlong attack on the lead fire pending arrival of stronger crews has proved invaluable in holding down burned acreage. They are shock units of 8 to 10 men who work at a speed which is expected to exhaust them soon; then they fall out, get their breath, and go back to their stations when the reinforcements take over the fire.

Harry Clarke, landscape architect, has joined the force and is helping the rangers dress up their districts. The ranger, guard stations, and tower sites are all being treated, camp grounds given a professional touch, and new recreational developments mapped out. A 27-acre lake will be built on the Saline and along grounds well adapted to campground and summer-home use. Bill Dale is going to get a lake on the North Fork and he

is now much sought after by Girl Scout executives.

"Logs" for Visitors

A number of scenic trip "logs" are being prepared based on Hot Springs and Mena, for use by the Chambers of Commerce in meeting the demands of visitors. Melichar has another of his show-me trips lined up in connection with the Realtors Convention.

A Personnel Problem

The current losses through graduation were Prater to the Cherokee, Dillon to the Nantahala, and Black to the Regional Engineer's Office. The other forests' good fortune!

--A. W. Hartman,
Forest Supervisor

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OZARK

Everyone in the Ozark organization believes the law enforcement activities have done much to discourage incendiary fires on the forest. The fire situation has had some good breaks on account of hard rains, but even in dry weather no serious outbreaks have occurred. However, there seems no lessening in the annual burning on private land, and a great many fires have been burning outside the forest.

Ranger Kunze says that all three of the large stave sales are cutting fast. The Hudson Dugger sales average a quarter million feet for the month and well toward a half million for the Export.

The Ozark nursery finished

the washroom and sewer system and is just about finished with the seedling refrigerator house.

Another bridge has been started on lower Richland Creek and Engineer Heman reports that he wishes to get the main work started next week. The Frog Bayou Bridge on the Cass-Bidville will be completed this month.

Forty field men are now working on acquisition, having examined 4,290 acres in 29 tracts for the Forest Service, and a total of 5,545 acres for the AAA. Total options for the month include 2,391 acres in 16 tracts.

Motion pictures were shown at Camp Moore on February 15. The Forest Service's system of sustained-yield and management was explained and illustrated to Professor Dulaney's class at Arkansas Tech on February 23. About two weeks earlier an illustrated talk on "Influence of ground cover in stabilizing run-off" was given before the Russellville Lions Club.

The last week in February Camp Sylamore was reported to have 33 cases of measles and mumps.

--S. B. Helms,
Acting Forester Supvr.

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NANTAHALA

Planting on the Nantahala during the spring will be confined to 20 M poplar and 45 M white pine from Parsons Nursery stock. It is planned to plant some yellow pine, white pine and poplar wildlings on sparsely stocked fields.

Fishing Report Completed

Party Chief Robert Burrows of the Bureau of Fisheries, has completed his report and recommendations based on the stream survey made last year. This information was badly needed as a basis for a stream improvement program.

The timber survey party is completing the last compartment in the Clayton Working Circle. Junior Forester Charles A. Rowland is carrying on the volume, defect, and growth studies necessary for management plans. Volume tables have been completed for five site and species groupings.

Low Average for Burned Areas

Fires on the Tallulah and Wayah Ranger Districts have been conspicuously absent since January 1, but Ranger Bernier on the Nantahala District is receiving a rather strenuous initiation in his new job. There were ten fires in his district, chiefly during February; there were 13 fires on the entire forest. These were practically all on or adjacent to newly acquired lands or optional lands. Bernier has risen to the occasion and the average fire burned only eight acres. Only 25.3 acres of n. f. land have been burned in this district. Of this 25.3 acres, 24.3 were burned in one fire. Eight of the ten fires were extinguished without any loss of n. f. land.

Road System Improved

The extensive program of road construction last year lifted the Nantahala Forest out of the mud, so

to speak. By means of its trunk system of State and Federal highways supplemented by rock-surfaced forest roads, it is now possible to reach any part of the forest at all seasons of the year in good time.

The Nantahala has practically completed the grading and surfacing of four miles of forest development road running from the Nantahala Road at Nantahala Gap along the ridge northerly to the top of the Wayah Bald. We believe this is the highest and the only mountain of consequence in the East that has a rock-surfaced motor road all the way to the top. The view is magnificent and when motorists learn how easily they can reach this point of scenic vantage, we expect increasing numbers of visitors.

Acquisition on the Nantahala Forest received a decided impetus with the proposal of the Blackwood Lumber Company property aggregating 40,000 acres, more or less in Jackson County, North Carolina. This tract represents the nucleus for acquisition in this county and joins the Sherwood Forest tract. If the Blackwood tract is acquired, it will join the boundaries of the Pisgah and the Nantahala Forests. Examining crews are now working on it. Including the Blackwood tract, lands proposed for February aggregate 54,000 acres.

--J. Herbert Stone,
Forest Supervisor.

FLORIDA FORESTS

APALACHICOLA--A fire-weather observing station has been established at Wilma, cooperating with the U. S. Weather Bureau at Jacksonville.

the U. S. Weather Bureau at Jacksonville. Predictions have been found valuable in planning the daily work of the fire organization.

The fire-control set-up is handled directly from the ranger's office at Wilma through the clerk-fire dispatcher. A crew of eight CCC enrollees under a local leader is maintained at each camp for the first line of defense. Lookouts are manned for the most part by enrollees who work alternate days.

Apalachicola camps maintain an after-work hour and Saturday and Sunday presuppression schedule, retaining one to three of the Forest Service supervising personnel and approximately one-third of the CCC men for fire duty. This appears to have worked well; to date (March 8) 614 acres have been burned inside the boundary as against approximately 2,000 last year.

Apalachicola has five turpentine stills operating approximately 30 crops of faces. This is handled under an escrow agreement in the case of optioned lands to maintain work for people residing on the forest.

A five-percent timber cruise is well under way, a total of 143,000 acres having been cruised up to the first week in March.

Ocala--This Forest had a fire of considerable proportions on February 23. The origin is not yet definitely known, but it is believed that subsequent developments will show conclusive evidence of incendiarism. The majority of the burn was successfully fought by CCC men. A heavy setting of

by CCC men. A heavy matting of wire grass caused the fire to spread rapidly. The total acreage burned approximates more than 2,000 acres, less than 150 acres of which was owned by the Government. Only a small percentage of standing timber was injured.

Rapid progress is being made by CCC workers in claying Road No. 19 from Salt Springs to Eureka. This is good news to everyone concerned.

OSCEOLA--The use of a thinning axe was a new experience to most of the men on our thinning crews, but they have been working full swing. Beginners were given careful instructions, and the following procedure was found most effective:

Men trained in marking proceed in advance of the main crew blazing the majority of trees to be cut. The thinning crew follows and cuts the blazed trees. The most experienced men follow to check the work done, taking out any additional trees necessary to bring the stand to the desired density and instructing the men as necessary in their work.

As the men become competent, the crew is increased to two 25-man units and the blazers are gradually dispensed with. Operations are kept within density requirements by laying off sample plots at random intervals of one-tenth acre, and counting the trees left standing within that area.

Major accidents are kept to a minimum by constantly warning the men to be careful concerning the use of the axe. Safety-first lectures have been beneficial, also.

Experiment Station Plots

The 1000-acre area, selected by the Experiment Station for the purpose of establishing permanent control plots representing the four major types in this section of the flatwoods belt, is being cruised by a 10-per cent estimate.

Naval Stores

During February 46,479 trees were marked, which brings the total of new faces for the 1935 season up to eleven crops. Cupping squads followed the marking crew, and by the end of February practically all virgin crops were hung and the advance streak cut. Chipping began around the first of March.

Frank Smith's Sawmill

Frank Smith's administrative sawmill turned out 64,000 b.m. of timbers and dimension stock for bridges and other purposes during the month. This mill is the pride and joy of the forest, a masterpiece in the art of backwoods sawmilling: A haywire mill, pretty good location, eighteen-mile haul to Olustee guard station Timber cypress, very few knots, Awfully sound between rotten spots. Tractor seat smashed, tank leaks some, Carburetor patched with chewing gum. Belt is ragged, rats ate the laces, Head saw cracked in a couple of places. The motor knocks and is loose on the frame, The flywheel is broke but runs just the same. There's a pile of side lumber and few cull ties, About to be attached by some flatwoods guys. But when the Osceola needs bridge

timbers,
Here's the place she begins,
For it's a damn good layout for the
shape it's in.

Many Boundary Errors

Ten miles of interior boundary line have been surveyed to determine encroachments on forest land. Many have been found and usually they can be traced to errors made in the original survey and corrected by the General Land Office survey made recently on the Columbia County half of the forest.

The farms and homesteads in Florida were located according to the best methods and information available at the time. Usually forties and eighties were staked out on "likely pieces" of land in an entirely different location than called for in the deed description. Cases have been found where only eight or ten acres lay in the actual forty described in the deed. Many fences and improvements will necessarily be moved. In other cases a special use permit is given and occasionally the owner exchanges other land for the Government land encroached upon. As a whole, people seem willing to cooperate in clearing up the boundaries around private tracts inside the forest.

Fire Lines Sown with Grass

A total of 185 miles of plowed fire lines have been sown with carpet grass seed. The lines averaged a width of about 8 feet and 10 pounds of seed per acre were sown. When the grass is established, this will provide the equivalent of 157 acres of improved pasture.

Several deer have been seen from the forest roads, and turkey and bear signs indicate that these species of wildlife are becoming more numerous probably because of protection given them.

--T. N. Busch,
Acting Forest Supervisor

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USE FORM FOR CLIPPINGS

A great many very interesting clippings about the work of the Service are being sent the Regional Office from the field. We are glad to have them and want you to keep on sending them, but often we receive a batch with no special identification.

The Forest Service has a form (265) for use in transmitting clippings which shows where they originated and who sent them in. Some of the forests have a supply and use them, and it is hoped that others will obtain the forms and follow this procedure.

Let me say here that we are gratified at the way in which Forests are supporting the DIXIE RANGER. Keep up the good work and do not hesitate to let us have constructive "brick-bats".

--H. O. Stabler,
Acting Regional Forester

LEST WE FORGET

Personnel Record (Form O-32 R, 8) for all regular employees who have had a change since April 1934, is due April 1.

Efficiency reports are in the
offing.

THE LOOKOUT

Solicitor of the Department of Agriculture Seth Thomas visited the Regional Office on March 20.

Several members of Supervisor Albert's staff enjoyed a week-end outing at the Forest Service lodge at Sweetwater Camp on the Ocala. Swimming and fishing were the principal sports.

Ranger Hoffman of the Ouachita has announced the arrival of an eight-pound boy at his house. The Ouachita reporter says Junior Forester Hawley returned from his honeymoon about the same time, and it was a field day for cigar smokers.

Ranger McCullough of the Ocala has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Marion County Chamber of Commerce.

Ranger H. B. Bosworth has been transferred from the Pisgah to the Ouachita National Forest. He will have headquarters at Hot Springs and will be detailed to timber-sales work.

Charles C. Davenport, Technician Junior Forester, is assisting Ranger Branch of the Mount Mitchell District of the Pisgah.

Fire destroyed the home of Camp Superintendent R. E. Wells of the Ozark Forest not long ago. Mrs. Wells and one child suffered severe burns.

New cultural foremen on the Nantahala are D. T. Robinson, Roger Williams, and George Baroni. Foreman J. G. Roylance resigned recently to resume his former work with a New York nursery.

There are twins at the home of Ranger and Mrs. Troy Curtis of the White Rock District of the Ozark National Forest.

The following executive-assistant changes have been made: F. R. Yates has been transferred to Ouachita, W. B. Dillon to the Nantahala, and George A. Otto to the Wambaw.

Four slash pines, donated by the Florida Forest Service nursery were planted east of the courthouse at Lake City by prominent Kiwanis Club members as a feature of a regular weekly dinner program. Supervisor Albert planned the program to emphasize tree planting. Ranger Thurmond gave a resume' of the history of reforestation in the State and discussed the possibilities of future tree planting for roadside beautification.

W. R. Anderson, formerly with the Charleston Navy Yard, has been transferred to the Ozark Forest as second clerk.

F. E. Wesson succeeded Miss Robinson on the Cherokee.

J. E. Black has assumed duty in the Regional Office as ECW equipment maintenance engineer, and is working out of the Branch of Engineering.

J. Robert Smith, formerly executive assistant on the Wambaw and more recently executive assistant in the Branch of Lands, is now fiscal agent on State ECW under the Regional Fiscal Agent.

Regional Fiscal Agent Marshall returned Saturday from

a trip to the Ouachita and Ozark Forests. He left Tuesday to attend a special conference in Washington.

William T. David, formerly with the Southern Forest Experiment Station, is now acting as district ranger on the Long Cane District of the Sumter Forest.

The Regional Office is installing photostat and blue print machinery, and will soon have production in full swing.

Kenneth Coleman reported for duty as messenger on March 25.

Mrs. Collette has been appointed to a position in the ECW section.

Miss Loy Mitchell, formerly with the Atlanta branch of the Addressograph Company, reported for duty March 25, and has been assigned to the Branch of Engineering.

- - - - - DIXIE DUCKPIN LEAGUE

Standing at end of First Half--March 22, 1935.

<u>Team</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Lost</u>
Eastern Air Lines	18	12
USFS Woodpeckers	17	13
DuPont Company	17	13
USFS Engineers	14	16
Eastman Kodak Co.	13	17
Five Pts. Shoe Repair	12	18

<u>U.S.F.S. Woodpeckers</u>	<u>No. Games</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>High</u>	<u>High</u>
	<u>Rolled</u>	<u>Pins</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Game</u>	<u>Set</u>
Murphy	26	2667	102-15	141	346
Bell	28	2799	99-27	124	343
Kramer	18	1780	96-12	124	332
James	23	2161	93-22	112	304
Neiman	25	2332	93-7	109	302
Stone	16	1449	90-9	108	293
Harms	14	1211	86-7	111	300
Team Average	150	14399	95-149	547	1517

<u>U.S.F.S. Engineers</u>					
Vogel	30	3046	101-16	135	372
Heffner	30	3001	100-1	125	348
Kieny	30	2746	94-20	117	321
Williamson	6	535	89-1	102	277
Claflin	18	1577	87-11	104	286
Cain	17	1484	87-5	105	263
Gay	18	1491	82-15	101	272
Root	2	150	75-0	78	---
Team Average	150	14030	93-80	539	1498

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